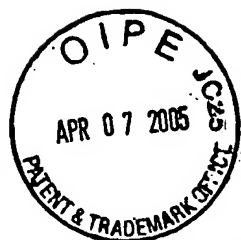


IFU



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04329.3102

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Tomoe KAWAKAMI <i>et al.</i>	)	Group Art Unit: 2816
	)	
Application No.: 10/627,650	)	Examiner: Not assigned
	)	
Filed: July 28, 2003	)	
	)	
For: RELAY APPARATUS AND	)	Confirmation No.: 3613
NETWORK RELAY METHOD	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. To the knowledge of the undersigned, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Applicants attach copies of the listed documents. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The documents listed in this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in the attached Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office in a corresponding Japanese Patent Application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed

within three months of the mailing date of the Japanese Office Action. A copy of the Japanese Patent Office Action is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, an English language version of the Japanese Patent Office Action is also attached. Applicants do not necessarily endorse the conclusion set forth in the Japanese Patent Office Action.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 7, 2005

By:   
Wenye Tan  
Reg. No. 55,662

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/627,650
Filing Date	July 28, 2003
First Named Inventor	Tomoe KAWAKAMI
Art Unit	2816
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	04329.3102

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

**Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP-7-38582	02-07-1995			
		JP-7-283828	10-27-1995			
		JP-10-303946	11-13-1998			
		JP-11-177582	07-02-1999			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Notification of Reasons for Rejection issued by Japanese Patent Office in February 8, 2005, in Japanese Application No. 2002-220032	Yes

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.